

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19203 112240Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 L-03 H-01 EB-08  
COME-00 SMS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 /068 W  
-----060306 122300Z /15  
R 111735Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5465

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BGEN, CASC, UR  
SUBJECT: CRAWFORD CASE - DISTURBING STORIES

-1. AS BACKGROUNDER ON ONE DISTURBING ASPECT OF CRAWFORD CASE, EMBASSY SUBMITS FOLLOWING TWO VIGNETTES: CRAWFORD HIMSELF WAS RECENTLY TOLD THAT JOHN DEERE COMPANY HAD QUERIED HAROLD SCOTT OF US-USSR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL REGARDING FACTS OF CRAWFORD CASE. SCOTT'S RESPONSE, ACCORDING TO CRAWFORD'S SOURCE, WAS, "WE HAVE BEEN FULLY INFORMED ON THIS CASE BY MR. SUSHKOV, AND ARE ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT INFORMATION." WHILE PATENT ABSURDITY OF IMPLICATIONS OF SCOTT'S ALLEGED RESPONSE IN NO WAY NEGATES POSSIBILITY OF ITS BEING ACCURATE, EMBASSY, OF COURSE, HAS NO MEANS OF CONFIRMING IT OR SIMILAR STATEMENTS. HOWEVER, MERE FACT THAT SUCH STORIES CIRCULATE IS IN ITSELF DISTURBING, HAS LIKELY DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON CRAWFORD'S REPUTATION, AND CAN ONLY BE DESTRUCTIVE TO HIS OWN MORALE IN ALREADY EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. THESE EFFECTS ARE ONLY MAGNIFIED IF REPORTS PROVE ACCURATE.

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2. FURTHER, DANGER OF SUCH TALK IS ILLUSTRATED BY RECENT CASE OF U.S. BUSINESSMAN, FREQUENT VISITOR TO MOSCOW, WHO TOLD COMOFF THAT QUOTE STREET TALK UNQUOTE AMONG MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN MOSCOW REFLECTS VIEW THAT JAY CRAWFORD IS PROBABLY GUILTY TO SOME DEGREE OF CHARGES SOVIETS HAVE LODGED AGAINST HIM. PREVALENT OPINION, HE SAID IS

THAT SOVIETS WOULD NOT BE QUOTE SO STUPID UNQUOTE AS  
TO MAKE A CASE AGAINST CRAWFORD WITHOUT SOME HARD  
EVIDENCE. WHEN COMOFF QUESTIONED HIM FURTHER IT  
BECAME APPARENT THAT INFORMANT DID NOT IN FACT KNOW  
WHAT CHARGES WERE. HE HAD QUOTE BEEN TOLD UNQUOTE  
THAT CRAWFORD WAS ACCUSED OF TRADING IN SERIES "D"  
COUPONS. COMOFF IN RESPONSE NOTED WHAT ACTUAL  
CHARGE WAS, COMMENTED ON APPARENT LACK OF EVIDENCE,  
AND SUGGESTED BUSINESSMAN INJECT THE FACTS INTO THE  
LOCAL BUZZ. TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BUSINESSMEN, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MOSCOW19203  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CRAWFORD CASE - DISTURBING STORIES -1. AS BACKGROUNDER ON ONE DISTURBING ASPECT OF CRAWFORD CASE, EMBASSY SUBMITS FOLLOWING TWO VIGNE  
**TAGS:** BGEN, CASC, UR, (CRAWFORD, F JAY)  
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